

To whom it concerns,

I have read many comments to the use of bpl, and as a radio operator and telecommunications specialist working intermittently for homeland defense, I believe the American Public Power Assn, July 28, 2003 comment to be in error as are many others. I have used and use NOW, a modem for personal security, not having to deal with software glitches and firewalls that "normally" work well to keep people off of my harddrive. I have not been "left behind" as they stated would happen. NO rural community will be "left behind". It simply takes 1 minute instead of 20 seconds to get some things downloaded.

The communications nightmare to all ham radio, some HF federal disaster communication, am radio broadcasting, SOME MILITARY COMMUNICATION will be in jeopardy using observation by slightly educated individuals, not to mention that Japan and many European countries BANNED bpl due to the very real problems encountered by this application. There is insurmountable physical evidence that there is a large opportunity/probability to destroy and/or hinder HF communications. This destroys public safety and homeland security, NOT increasing it as A.P.P.A. states. I believe HF radio is a most necessary fallback to all government emergency and military communications in our country. Ham radio operation as a sideline will also (in line with Japan, European countries ACTUAL experiences) be hindered and interrupted, if not destroyed. We rely on these hams in emergencies all the time (space shuttle pick, New York 9/11, storm chasing, up for just a few examples) when our other communications of "experts" fail. Where are these "experts" when our country has disasters and needs communications? The HF radio bands are a necessity for public safety, at least much more so than bpl. I respectfully request that this bpl usage be terminated/banned for use in this country based on actual findings of implementations and not "comments" from money makers or people that think they have a "pretty good idea".

Respectfully submitted,
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